

# Community Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

**JERSEY CITY**—Hudson County Community College offers training for child care workers to become certified early childhood educational professionals. Anyone interested in enrolling must attend an orientation session May 5th. For more info, call 973-714-2107.

**JERSEY CITY**—Hudson County Community College offers Engineering Science. The program awards an A.S. degree. A brochure outlining the requirements is available by calling the science office at 973-714-2179.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 16

**EDISON**—You are invited to the 1998 International Collectables Exposition through April 19th at the NJ Convention and Exposition Center. For more info, call 847-255-4444.

**NEWARK**—Friends of Library will have their "Seventy Annual Book Sale" from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Newark Public Library. For more info, call 973-733-7798.

**NEWARK**—The 14th Annual Fund-Raising Auction will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Newark Club, One Newark Center, 2nd Fl. For more info, call 973-643-5727.

**PLAINFIELD**—Learn how your city works at this workshop which will be taught by Diane Lynch, the Deputy Administrator. The workshop will be held at the Plainfield Senior Citizens Center at 10:30 a.m. For more info, call 973-823-5153.

**TEANECK**—A dinner honoring former New Jersey Commissioner of Labor, Ray Bramucci will be held at the Marriott at Glenpointe beginning with a social hour at 6 p.m. For more info, call 1-800-562-6913.

**CORONA PARK**—Lightnings '98, the exhibition of interactive light art will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the New York Hall of Science. For more info, call 718-699-0005, ext. 350.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**PLAINFIELD**—Members of the Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center are invited to a Birthday Party starting at 1:30 p.m. Transportation can be provided. For more details, call 908-753-3506.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

**MAPLEWOOD**—The Girl Scout Council of Greater Essex will recruit volunteers to participate in the first Fun Walk for the OVA, Day Camp and Girl Scout Camp Eagle Island, taking place at 10:00 a.m. For more info, call 973-748-8200.

**ELIZABETH**—Community Access Unlimited will have its annual fee mar-

kets at the Elizabeth social service agency's 80 West Grand Street headquarters from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information on table rentals can be obtained by calling Romanowski at 908-354-9040, ext. 275.

**PRINCETON**—The NJ School Boards Association's Annual Legislative Conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. For more info, call 609-278-5202.

**TRENTON**—New Jerseyans urged to vote in the school elections April 21st. For more info, call 609-278-5202.

**TRENTON**—The NJ State Museum will have a "Heavens and Earth" Day. For more info, call 609-292-6464.

**WNET/13**—"The Elephant Men" air from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on channel 13. This program explores how the capture of the wild elephants affects the survival of the villagers and the elephants.

**WNET/13**—"Age of Hope/Killing Fields" airs from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. on channel 13. This landmark 26-part series offers unparalleled insight into the remarkable and often turbulent events of the century. Part 1-2 of 26.

**REMINGTON**—The second annual All-American Pottery and Dinnerware Show and Sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Magdalene Church. For more info, call 908-782-8631.

**SECAUCUS**—Judging for the 30th Annual Jersey Awards will be held at the studio of UPN-4 WWCN-TV. For more info, call 973-998-5153.

**NEWARK**—Summer Scholarship try-outs for boys and girls for the Garden State Ballet will be held today, April 25th, May 9th, and May 16th. For complete information as to the time of the tryouts, call 973-823-1033.

## MONDAY, APRIL 20

**NEWARK**—The first-ever consortium of volunteers from Newark's cultural and arts institutions will be held at The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6642.

**WESTFIELD**—A free seminar on "Lawn Care and Renovation" will be held at the Westfield Administration Building at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-664-9854.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 21

**NEWARK**—The first of the series, "Racism: An Equal Opportunity Flyer" will be held 8 p.m. at St. Benedict's Preparatory School. For more info, call 973-497-4189.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 24

**PLAINFIELD**—The play, "Daddy's Little Girl" will be performed at Plainfield High School at 7 p.m. Adults \$5/Children \$2.50

# Little Artists



**PLAINFIELD**—The winners of the Drug Free Easter coloring contest are congratulated by store manager Evan Gerlino, in photo at center. They are, from left Leslie and Julia Grignon, Tessa Rose and Geena Madison.

## Original mural now on display



**MONTCLAIR**—"Ice Skaters," a mural by Montclair State University senior Richard Garrick, decorates the lobby of Floyd Hall Arena, a state-of-the-art recreational ice facility on the MSU. The arena, the result of an innovative collaborative arrangement among Montclair State, Floyd Hall Enterprises and the state of New Jersey, contains two National Hockey League size hockey rinks. Garrick, who emigrated to the United States from Sierra Leone in 1991, is a senior in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program. Public skating is offered daily at the arena. For additional information, call 973-745-7744.

(Steve Hockstein/Harvard Studio photo)

## Rodgers-Hunter new president of New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc.



**BLOOMFIELD**—Norma Rodgers-Hunter, a nursing major and business administration minor at Bloomfield College, was recently elected president of the New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc. at the organization's 46th annual convention in Atlantic City, Ms. Rodgers-Hunter, whose term begins on June 1, previously served as vice president and second vice president of the Executive Board of the New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc. "My goals as president are to increase membership, to involve more students in the committees, and to make New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc. a more visible organization," said Rodgers-Hunter.

**Correction**  
The following is a letter from Ms. Carol Dixon requesting a correction on the article's "Nowhere to turn: A mother at the end of her rope" published on page one of the April 1 issue.

I would like for you to correct the statement that I had an operation on my neck and back. Because I did not. They refused to treat me for my neck and back, but I had an operation for a female problem.

Also, I am not fighting for my job back, but for compensation and my disability benefits which they withheld from me. In which I am entitled to.

Because of my neck and back being out of place I am disabled to work at this time and need some assistance if possible. Thank you.

I wrote this because I didn't want nobody come to up to me or tell me I did lie about the operation on my neck and back and I am telling them I'm in pain from them neglecting to treat my conditions and that I am disabled and most of all I am a Christian.

(signed)  
Ms. Carol Dixon

## Students Recognized by AKA



**NEWARK**—Beta Alpha Omega and Gamma Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. recently held its annual African American History Celebration and Reading Essay contest at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The theme of the contest was "Hurting Our Youth: In Order to Secure the Present." Over 100 parents, teachers, principals, and friends gathered to witness the achievements of their children. Winners for each grade level read their essays with great interest. Readings were rendered by the president of both chapters, Melody McGowan Parker and Jennifer Watley. First, second and third place winners of the African American History Celebration and Reading Essay contest are shown with members of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Mayor Sharpe James. First place winners included Makeda Evans, 8th grade, Dr. Martin Luther School of Journalism and Publishing, Maryann Odumayo, 6th grade, Asington Avenue School, Dominique Goodson, 7th grade, Howell Wilson Middle School, Dineen Davis, 6th grade, Morristown School, all of Newark. Second place winners included Eunice Ogden, 8th grade, McKinley School and Yasmineh Danilak, 8th grade, both from Dr. E. Alma J. High School. The third place winners included Starr Calo, 6th grade, Madison Avenue School and Deric DeSavia, 8th grade, Wilson Avenue School.

## Newark inducts New Jersey's First Women's Hall of Fame



The Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women recently held a luncheon at the Newark Museum to induct Newark women into the City's first "Woman's Hall of Fame." Mayor Sharpe James holds plaque which contains the names of the Charter members. First inductees, from row from left, Louise Scott, Lourie West Stalks, Triana Morris Yancey. Back row (left to right) Senator Wynona Lipman, Sister Mary Dwyer, Carrie Harris representing Amelia Stewart, Louise Eggerston and Emily Miles.

## 'Meeting the Challenge'



**JERSEY CITY**—Felipe Luciano, at right, host of WLJB's "Conversations With Felipe Luciano" and founding president of Luciano Productions, Inc., was a guest speaker at Jersey City State College's second annual "Academic and Leadership Development Conference for African-American and Latino College Men." The winner of Emmy, ACE, and Shilburn Awards, and the first Puerto Rican news anchor on a network broadcast, Mr. Luciano discussed the conference theme, "African-American and Latino College Men: Meeting the Challenge through Commitment, Growth, and Excellence," with, from left: Dr. Anstey Lallier, JCSC dean of arts and sciences whose office co-sponsored the conference; Dr. Alene Graham, JCSC vice president for student services; and Darryl Smith, an EOF counselor at William Paterson University who co-chaired the conference. The JCSC program also featured an address by poet Reg E. Gaines, author of the book, Bring It 'Da Noise, Bring It 'Da Funk, and professional development and student workshops.

## Prison ministry member receives recognition



**MONMOUTH COUNTY**—C. Deiores Wilson, in photo at center, was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Sheriff Joseph W. Orley, at right, and Warden Clifford Danneberg in appreciation of the dedication and commitment she has exhibited in her many years of service as a member of the Monmouth County Correctional Institution Women's Auxiliary Prison Ministry. "Ms. Wilson has always given generously of her time and energy. She has long been a source of comfort and spiritual guidance to inmates of the Monmouth County Correctional Institution. The efforts of dedicated volunteers in the prison ministry, like Ms. Wilson are greatly appreciated by everyone involved with MCCI," stated Sheriff Orley.

# ATTENTION



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

residents of  
**Monmouth County**



THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS HAS CREATED A FAIR HOUSING OFFICE AND APPOINTED A FAIR HOUSING BOARD

The Monmouth County Fair Housing Board has been established by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to provide policy and guidance on compliance with State and Federal fair housing laws and regulations to protect the rights of all Monmouth County residents. The Fair Housing Office will provide the following services:

1. Coordination of a county-wide approach to ensure fair housing for residents.
2. Establishment of an intake and screening procedure for discrimination complaints. Services will include assistance and counselling on procedures for filing a complaint, help in completing the complaint form, and review and verification process.
3. Provide general information and assistance on housing problems, and when necessary refer clients to other agencies that are funded and staffed to handle a specific housing problem, including referral to the New Jersey Department of Civil Rights.
4. Education, training and technical assistance to individuals, groups, agencies and/or organizations.
5. Acquire and coordinate assistance of New Jersey Division of Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for verification of discrimination practices and negotiating settlement for fair housing problems.

The office will provide service and assistance to the general public however, we have targeted the following groups as our highest priority:

MINORITIES, HANDICAPPED, HOMELESS, SENIOR CITIZENS, FAIR HOUSING GROUPS, CONCERNED HOME/APARTMENT LEASE GROUPS, HOMEBUILDERS, REALTORS, LENDING INSTITUTIONS, AND MUNICIPALITIES

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
HALL OF RECORDS ANNEX  
EAST MAIN STREET  
P.O. BOX 1255  
FREEHOLD, N.J. 07728-1255  
(908) 431-7490

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

### Judge rules against defense motions

**WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP)**—The federal judge who will hear the Texaco tapes trial refused Wednesday to suppress a top executive's secretly recorded comments about black employees.

Robert Ulrich, a retired Texaco treasurer, had claimed that his vulgar remarks reflected the racial bias of the black cultural festival in Houston. Ulrich was not asked to his objections of justice case and would unfairly prejudice a jury.

U.S. District Judge Judge Barrington Parker apparently adopted the prosecutors' position that the comments were evidence of Ulrich's motive. Ulrich and another retired executive, Richard Landwell, allegedly destroyed evidence that was being sought by plaintiffs in a race-discrimination case.

Ulrich's taped comments do not include a racial epithet, as an early transcript indicated. However, the publication of the tapes.

Ulrich and Landwell, who made the tapes, could be sentenced to 10 years in prison if convicted of obstruction of justice.

### Civil War Memorial to be unveiled

On Saturday, July 18 at 2 p.m., the first national monument to honor Colored Troops will be unveiled.

"The Spirit of Freedom" sculpture and Civil War Memorial is a salute to the 208,943 U.S. Colored Troops and their 7,000 White Officers who fought and died in the Civil War.

This historic ceremony will be held on the plaza adjacent to the Carolina-Washington Metro stop, located at Vermont Avenue and U Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. This area was renamed the "Slaw" neighborhood many years ago in honor of Robert Gould Shaw, commander of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment and his unit sent in this area after the Civil War.

This \$2.6 million project was completed in partnership with the government of the District of Columbia, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the National Park Service, National Archives, and D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton. Frank Smith, Jr., a D.C. council member, serves as chairman of the Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation.

### King's widow asks Reno for new assassination probe

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The widow of Martin Luther King Jr. presented new evidence to U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno in an appeal against another investigation of her husband's assassination.

After Wednesday's two-hour private meeting in her Justice Department conference room, Reno said: "We will carefully review the questions and information they presented, and I will be in touch with them as soon as the review is complete."

"We presented new evidence that has come to our attention about the assassination of my husband," Coretta Scott King told reporters afterwards.

The evidence included "new witnesses coming forth that had never been investigated," Mrs. King said, but she would not elaborate. Dexter King said polls show a large majority of Americans doubt the official story that James Earl Ray, acting alone, shot his father. He said a new inquiry is necessary "no once and for all this can be put to rest."

The King family has said in recent months that Ray was a scapegoat who did not act alone.

### World Bank gives Ghana \$35 million loan

**ACCRA, Ghana (PANA)** — The Ministry of Health has signed an agreement with the World Bank to provide \$35 million to increase access, quality and efficiency of health services for Ghanaians, especially the poor. The loan, which is to be repaid over 40 years with no interest, will finance the Ministry's five-year Medium Health Term Strategy (MHTS) which aims at providing universal access to a basic package of health services.

World Bank officials say from their experiences it has learned that it is better to utilize local capacity. They say the bank has shifted from a "donor-oriented system" to become a "shareholder," adding that the credit agreement is the first to be signed in Ghana with a beneficiary ministry rather than the Finance Ministry.

# Back Mayors confirm findings on widespread housing discrimination

**ATLANTA**—The National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc. (NCBMB), with its membership of 425 plus African-American mayors, is more than familiar with the findings of the recent report from the U.S. Conference of Mayors that "Center City residents of all income levels are less likely to own a home than suburban residents with similar incomes."

The Conference of Mayors study, "America's Homeownership Gap," cites statistics from a 1997 Harvard University Joint Center for Housing Studies report and documents that a homeownership gap between cities and suburbs is yet another sign that discrimination is alive and well. For example, the data show that only 10 percent of white applicants with incomes between 100 and 120 percent of the area median are denied conventional mortgages. The denial rate for African-Americans is 22.8 percent.

"We understand that 'Center City' residents translates to African-

Americans; and to see documentation that there is widespread discrimination against black people, toward the purchase of homes, is no surprise to us," says Mayor Emanuel Cleaver of Kansas City, Missouri, President of the NCBMB. The fact that homeownership rates for African-Americans are below that of whites is an indication. This is clear proof that families living in cities are too often denied a home not because of money, but because of race and location. This is illegal and corrective action must be demanded.

"The denial of mortgages to inner-city residents - more specifically minorities - is not only illegal, but it cripples efforts to revitalize communities where our people live in the inner cities," says Mayor Cleaver.

Mayor Cleaver further states, "NCBMB calls on the Justice Department and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to launch a thorough investigation into banks and other institutions that evalu-

ate and provide mortgages. Where violations are found, we want prosecutions. We further want restitution to be paid to the countless families who have been illegally denied their opportunity to own a part of the American Dream."

## National survey shows youth curfews reduce crime

**TRENTON**—A national survey of cities that have imposed youth curfews has demonstrated the positive impact such laws have on crime rates. A survey conducted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors found that 64 percent of the cities with a youth curfew in effect for 10 years or less have experienced either a stabilization or a decrease in their local juvenile crime rates. The survey found that juvenile crime dropped an average 21 percent among the communities that provided statistics to the Conference of Mayors.

"Youth curfews obviously provide cities with an effective tool to combat illegal activities by marauding teenagers," said Green (D-Utah Middlesex Somerset). "The statistics speak for themselves as to how effective curfews are in combating teen crime."

The Conference of Mayors conducted its survey on the effectiveness of youth curfews in 1997. The findings were recently published in the latest edition of State Legislatures magazine.

Trenton was the prime Assembly

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo, will be with the NCBMB this April at its annual convention in New Orleans. "We encourage the Secretary to speak to the issues revealed in this Mayors' study," says Mayor Cleaver.

## National survey shows youth curfews reduce crime

sponsor of the 1992 New Jersey law that allows cities to enact juvenile curfew ordinances with penalties for parents who fail to prevent their children from vandalizing or stealing property.

Green sought the law in the wake of a rising trend of car thefts and violent crimes by juveniles in the early 1990s. Since the law's enactment, New Jersey law enforcement officials have experienced a significant drop in juvenile arrests, particularly for motor vehicle thefts.

"This law sent a sobering message to juveniles and their parents that society won't tolerate indiscriminate mayhem by joyriding car thieves," said Green. "We've shown the youth of this state that they won't have free rein of the streets."

The law, which Green crafted with Senator Ronald Rice (D-Essen), allows a municipality to prohibit any juvenile from a public street or public place between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., unless he or she is accompanied by a parent or guardian. The law also allows municipalities to enact ordinances prohibiting juveniles to go unaccompanied into public places between these hours.

## Death care industry ripping off minorities

By Kendall Wilson  
Special to the NNPA from the Philadelphia Tribune

Motivated by economics, profits and the bottom line, chain store funeral companies' exploit and take advantage of "vulnerable" people with deceptive sales practices and unfair markets, according to a recent article in U.S. News & World Report. Minorities in rural areas, are increasingly being hurt by major corporations in the death industry, the report continued. "We've said it all along," remarks the Philadelphia Tribune, "the funeral home industry is running a family-owned funeral home in West Philadelphia. But the tragedy is that many Black families have already been ripped off. It is costly and deadly and it is going to get even costlier. These companies are after the profit, the bottom line. There is little or no compassion. They want their money. Many Black families simply cannot afford these rip-offs."

U.S. News & World Report's feature said economics dominate the way the chain store funeral companies operate in the mainstream and it reaches the level of exploitation. "Catholics, Hispanics, African Americans and Asians are increasingly becoming target customers for death care providers, precisely because these groups still hold traditional rituals and are not a part of the great shift taking place among White Protestants toward cremation and body-less memorials," the magazine said.

It further reported that 21 percent of Whites now opt for what the industry scorns as "bake and shake" (cremation), a figure expected to double by 2030. This is alarming news to the conglomerates in the death care industry, who prefer the more expensive funerals.

Christopher Hawkins, another member of the West Philadelphia multi-generational family funeral home community, echoes Terry's warning. "They're coming, saying they can provide cheaper services," Hawkins said. "But in the long run, will they really be cheaper? Of course not. Once they corner the market, the prices will zoom up and no one can do anything about it. They don't have the compassion of the neighborhood funeral home, which at times takes care of families who have no money. They don't give free funerals."

The U.S. News & World Report also pointed to the African-American market in particular, highlighting that they are one of the "highly desirable" markets for the death care provider because they prefer grand funerals. The big companies are also attracted by the high mortality rates among young Blacks, many the victims of violence.

The York Casket Co., one of the country's largest death care providers, now sells a casket that can be drawn on with a magic marker. A salesman at the annual National Funeral Directors Association meeting last year said that York expects it to be a "big seller in the inner cities, for the teenage market."

U.S. News said that chain-church alliances suggest "the wave of the future." The African-American community is well aware of the controversial arrangement, orchestrated in 1995 between the National Baptist Convention USA Inc.—touted as the largest Black religious denomination in the country—and The Loewen Group of British Columbia, Canada. In the arrangement, Loewen would become the Convention's preferred death care provider. The contract called for the appointment of two members of each congregation for training as "funeral counselors." They are the people the congregation is encouraged to contact for mortuary services, graves and tombstones. The counselors received 10 percent sales commission from Loewen, with the pastor getting an added six percent and the Convention five percent.

As proponents of one of the oldest Black-owned businesses in America, African-American funeral directors and morticians condemned the arrangement, saying the Baptist Convention deal was a threat to the future of Black-owned funeral homes and to the Black community. While the Loewen deal was terminated several months ago when Convention president, the Rev. Dr. Henry Lyons, came under investigation for fraud and extortion charges. But the

## ANC opposes commission's decision over amnesty

**JOHANNESBURG**, South Africa (PANA)—The African National Congress of South Africa has filed a notice of opposition with the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's application to have the amnesty granted to 37 party leaders, including deputy president Thabo Mbeki, turned down.

The commission has claimed that the amnesty applications were irregular because the officials failed to fully disclose the events for which they were applying for amnesty. Meanwhile, 11 other congress members have also applied for amnesty from the commission relating to a spate of high-profile bombing, abduction and killing in the former Transkei prior to the 1994 elections. Four are applying for amnesty for their role in the ambush killings of Alister and Glena Weekly near the popular holiday resort town of Port St. Johns in 1993. Three of the applicants were convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison for the incident while the fourth was a witness at the trial.

Mlungisi Ntshweni, Luzuko Mjibakhe, Solomon Nomathozo and Layanda Ntshweni are applying for amnesty for their role in the abduction and killing of two policemen in Kokstad in 1993. Ranking Inkatha Freedom Party officials are also likely to be implicated when seven members of the party's hit squad apply for amnesty for a spate of massacres in KwaZulu-Natal in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

## Gun injuries should be seen as public health issue

By Tom Ragan  
Associated Press Writer

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)**—William Schwab hasn't ever gone to war, but the 51-year-old surgeon says he sometimes thinks he's in one.

"We average about 500 gunshot wounds a year," said Schwab, a spokesman of critical care and trauma for the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

He is also a U.S. Navy doctor in Vietnam, and it's similar, he said. "Think of the phrase 'incoming'

sound," said Schwab.

A survey published in Sunday's issue of the Annals of Internal Medicine finds that 87 percent of surgeons and 94 percent of internists across the country believe it's time to consider gunshot wounds a public health epidemic akin to AIDS, alcoholism and tobacco use.

Doctors should play a more active role in trying to prevent the injuries, an accompanying opinion paper says, whether it's supporting more stringent gun control legislation or simply taking time to counsel patients.

The opinion paper predicted that bullets will kill more people than automobile accidents by 2003.

The authors also noted that more teens today die from gunshot wounds than from all natural causes combined, and that firearms in the home make homicide three times more likely.

The survey showed that 64 percent of the surgeons and 84 percent of the internists said they thought stronger measures were needed to reduce gun-related deaths, which reached 39,720 in 1994.

The accompanying opinion paper noted that annual firearm-related deaths increased by more than 60 percent from 1968 to 1994.

"If this was any other disease, if this was a virus, the public would be demanding a cure," said Schwab, who co-wrote the journal's article about the survey. "They'd want something done about it. The problem is nobody is willing to come out and say 'This is a public health emergency'" as former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop did with AIDS, he said.



# Questioning the year of the apology

Clinton apologizes for slavery in Africa. Giuliani apologizes to the Hasidic community in Brooklyn. How will it end—or is this it?

Apologies show good manners, profess to show concern and compassion for the one apologized to, and signal a new beginning. However, in these two cases, more than an apology is needed to start the process of healing and growth.

While Clinton and Giuliani are busy apologizing to everybody else, some regret should be voiced to the African-American community—individually and collectively. The U.S. government, with Clinton at its head, waffles between apologizing to, and ignoring African-Americans. While it's nice to "feel our pain," somebody should get off the dime about this thing.

On the same hand, the Giuliani matter is just as serious a slap in the face. This "Dinkins and the court settlement made me do it" mea culpa to the Yankel Rosenbaum family that leaves out the family of Gavin Cato leaves us wondering why they are calling Giuliani "the poster boy for politeness." Is one family's pain less than the other? Would it take a court order for him to reach out to the black family?

April is the month of the dialogue on race. All over the country groups are meeting with the objective of putting together as a nation and healing old wounds. We suggest that this should be a real dialogue. An apology is a good point from which to start.

We call for an apology to the family of Gavin Cato from Rudolph Giuliani. Likewise, an apology is in order from President Clinton to Congress and Blacks for the obscenity that was slavery. Anything less than this is unconscionable.

## Letter to the Editor

### Dear Editor:

I'm a longtime resident of Jersey City and would like to request that Congressman Menendez (13th district) and Payne (10th district) support the "Quiet Communities Act" (H.R. 536), which if passed, will re-establish the Environmental Protection Agency's office of noise control.

Congressman Rothman (9th district) is a co-sponsor and Senator Torricelli introduced the Senate version of this bill, which Senator Lautenberg has cosponsored.

This legislation would genuinely benefit the 9th, 10th and 13th Congressional districts of Jersey City and many other communities impacted with noise pollution from "boom boxes" to jet noise.

Congressmen Menendez and Payne should immediately co-sponsor H.R. 536 or publicly state to their constituents the reason they do not support the "Quiet Communities Act."

Elizabeth Kelly

## Big Tobacco consistently targets African Americans

By Makani N. Themba

Not long ago in a not too distant place, an industry targeted upon the perfect product. It was cheap to make. It was its users' own feel good, and it was very addictive.

The business world marveled at this discovery and rushed to reap what seemed to be endless profits. Even when it was discovered that the product, when used as directed, would kill its users, the crafty capitalists of industry fretted not. They would make up for the loss with new markets.

They set their sights on African Americans, who smoked far less in the 1950s than people in other communities. They began by spreading their money to every cause and institution that African Americans hold dear.

They funded their music, their art, their concerts, their schools and their churches. They gave money to African-American family reunion groups and sponsored family reunion storytelling contests for children. African-American family reunions and homes bore larger-than-life signs proclaiming the products' "benefits."

The industry became so ingrained in African-American life that when the death toll among African Americans as a result of this product climbed to more than 50,000 annually.

Unfortunately, this is not science fiction but the real-life story of the tobacco industry's targeting of African Americans. Recently leaked documents show how Big Tobacco plotted to addict African Americans to high nicotine, mentholated cigarettes. These documents demonstrate, in cold-blooded detail, how tobacco industry executives saw African Americans as a growth market for the tobacco industry. Not content to simply market products, the tobacco industry pioneered a strategy to stamp out made tobacco a central feature of African-American life.

Few African-American leaders have recognized the extent of these disclosures. They simply owe Big Tobacco too much.

While most African-American leaders go about their business in

silence, President Clinton ponders a limited offer of legal immunity to the tobacco industry in exchange for a cash settlement. The money, according to the Clinton administration, would go to fund child-care policies and other family programs—mostly for the middle class.

These negotiations have virtually ignored the millions of African Americans living on the front lines of the tobacco wars. Few African-American victims of the tobacco industry have attained high-profile litigation or affected the time and energy of a protected civil suit. Most are battling for meager insurance benefits—and for their lives.

Clinton has caused more death and destruction in the African-American community than illegal drugs, alcohol, AIDS or violence combined. Hundreds of thousands of black children suffer from exposure to secondhand smoke in the form of asthma and other respiratory illnesses. A 1993 Center for Disease Control study showed that African Americans are likely to be advised by their doctors to quit smoking. According to a University of North Carolina study, up until 10 years ago African Americans were more likely than any other group to receive medical advice to start smoking for stress and weight management.

Clinton's consideration of tobacco industry immunity in the face of this suffering is ironic, to say the least. Under "The Individual Responsibility Act of 1995," he greatly decreased support to communities left to deal with the tobacco industry's impact. Community clinics and hospitals have been shutdown. Access to medical care has been limited, and basic financial support for families has been slashed. Any offer of immunity can only increase the burden on communities while letting the industry off the hook.

Makani N. Themba is co-director of The Praxis Project, a media and policy advocacy organization based in Oakland, Calif.

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## Your Vote Counts!

By Beulah M. Womack

Recently, a school district in Northern New Jersey laid a bond referendum on the outcome of which no one could have predicted it ended in a tie.

For many one citizen, who gave made it to the polls for whatever reason, gave up the ability to cast a tie-breaking vote.

Every time we step into the voting booth, we have the ability to decide an election. On Tuesday, April 21, voters in Essex County, New Jersey, 605 school districts have a chance to use that power as they choose the men and women to serve on their local school boards. The Annual School Election school will also give citizens the opportunity to approve or reject proposed school budgets for 1998-99.

When we make our choices for school board, we take the first step in helping determine the direction of our community's schools. The school board sets the policies under which the schools operate; policies that help determine what is taught and how it is taught, policies that govern the assignment and evaluation of teaching staff, policies that set guidelines for the use of school facilities.

Moreover, local school boards oversee the spending of more than \$12 billion a year, state and federal funds. The board of education also represents the community's interest in the business world, negotiating contracts with unions representing teachers and other staff.

For board members to fulfill their responsibilities, they must be able to accurately assess the needs of their community.

But they can't do that unless citizens make their opinions known. An important vehicle for that is the Annual School Election. Nothing speaks louder than votes.

So, don't sit this one out. Perhaps you feel you don't know enough about the issues. Information about candidates running for school board and local budget proposals is available from a variety of sources.

Budget information is available at your local school board office. By law, the proposed finance package must be published in an area newspaper as well and every registered voter will receive a sample ballot listing candidates and questions on the April 21 ballot.

For polling hours and locations, contact your local board of education office. Polling hours vary from community to community. In addition, polling places might differ from those used in general or primary elections.

Perhaps you just don't think your vote matters much.

No doubt a few people felt that way in that New Jersey community where the bond referendum resulted in a tie. The way things have turned out, the vote would have decided the fate of a bond referendum.

Clearly, their inaction provides a lesson all registered voters: Participate in the Annual School Election! Do it for your community. Do it for the children. Do it because your vote counts.

Beulah M. Womack is President of the New Jersey School Boards Association.

## A view from Africa

By Carolyn L. Bennett

President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham came back from Africa last week. And they brought with them South Africa's highest medal of honor, the Order of the Baobab, awarded by Clinton by President Nelson Mandela.

For Clinton brought back something else.

They brought back powerful memories. And they sent back mind-changing, new images of Africa.

The memory was a view from the slave hold on Robben Island with a drop off into the Atlantic ocean. The other was Coli—Mandela's prison home for 27 years.

For the blacked-out view from the view on Robben Island is a full miles off the coast of Cape Town.

The trip's images made a difference in the minds of the people who were talking heads. Americans saw a president and first lady respectful of black African people. They saw them walking hand in hand with other leaders and with Africa's leaders and its people.

Americans back home saw no talking heads. They saw a man who had a smirking black sash on. No naked people. Before and after traditional songs and dances, Americans saw workers and students and women heads of states and villages.

And thanks to Hillary's advance work in Africa a year ago, Americans saw a president who was not a racist. The president who followed the trip on television or at the White House Interior.

## Part III "South Africa After Apartheid"

Dr. Manning Marable

Robben Island is a small, unimpressive island of rocks and sand, inaccessible for miles beyond Cape Town's harbor. Yet it is known to millions around the world as a landmark of political courage and freedom, because Nelson Mandela and hundreds of political prisoners who opposed the former apartheid regime were confined for several decades there.

One can only begin to appreciate the dignity and determination of this generation of freedom fighters by visiting the island. It is a place of great history. Therefore it is difficult to criticize the role of Mandela and his comrades in the ANC. Mandela has been in power for four years since they came to power. Nevertheless, what has become increasingly clear is that the democratic revolution in South Africa has stalled. Millions of poor black people who sacrificed and struggled for the ANC have had their hopes dashed. South Africa's twelve million black people who today live literally in shacks made of cardboard, dirt and wood, wonder what happened to the ANC's election promise to build one million new homes for the poor.

Economically, the real power continues to be controlled by whites. One recent survey found that 65 percent of whites are in the top one-fifth income group in the country, compared to only 10 percent of blacks. Conversely, 23 percent of all blacks are in South Africa's lowest income group, compared to only 1 percent for whites. On the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, black-owned companies represent only 10 percent of all capital holdings.

Web site—or will see it later in archives learned lessons from an elder people: lessons about survival and hard work and leadership. They saw a man making a nation's economic base and men daring to disagree with the leader of the free world.

Elder statesman Nelson Mandela taught the younger Bill Clinton the lesson of holding on to old friends, such as Nelson Mandela and his wife. Mandela had in the fight against apartheid—while embracing new friends represented by Clinton, Americans heard the words of Mandela counsel America to make peace with old enemies.

It makes a difference to Americans to see Africa take a stand publicly for what it believes. And yet hold fast to friendships, new and old.

Clinton's visit to the only African leader taking a stand during this trip, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, disagreed, publicly, with African Americans who urged President Clinton to apologize for slavery. The Mail and Guardian reported Museveni as saying "Africa needs 'serious partnership' in a world economy."

But the long-term differences made by the 12-day visit to Africa might be the fact that it dispel long-standing images of the past—images that might change Americans' attitudes.

Carolyn L. Bennett is a columnist in Washington and lecturer at Howard University.

## FIELD ASSIGNMENT

### Essex Democratic Nomination

By Walter Fields



The Democratic primary for Essex County Executive was expected to produce some fireworks. But in fact, Democrats have no disappointed. In a close vote, party leaders have chosen Ken Gibson as the line on the ballot over county.

President Joseph Di Vincenzo, Gibson's status as the party's choice in Essex is the most significant vote taken against the backdrop of significant backroom maneuvering. North Ward politico Steve Adabato had made known his intention to challenge Essex Democratic chairman Tom Giblin if Di Vincenzo was denied the line. Adabato has long manipulated Newark and county politics from his perch on Mount Pleasant Avenue.

However, Adabato never counted on black Democratic elected officials who had made to deliver the goods for Giblin.

A surprise development was Giblin's last second endorsement of Di Vincenzo. Many observers had expected Giblin to remain on the sidelines, given his long history of being a primary four years ago against Cardell Cooper.

The underlying racial implications of the race were not lost on the county's leadership. However, this being Democratic politics anything is possible. And Adabato's actions were certainly not part of the script.

June 2 may be the primary but April 3 was a defining moment in this election. Essex County Executive had been simmering below the surface since Ken Gibson first announced his intention to seek the Essex County Executive's office. Democrats are convinced that a black candidate can never win countywide office. This in spite of the fact that the county's population is 50 percent black.

Registration advantage in the county. It is a self-fulfilling prophecy that could be broken by many who have not overcome their own phobias.

The only force preventing the election of a

black count executive are Democrats themselves.

For the affiliations of the New Jersey politics is that of memory. It was just four years ago when Sen. Frank Lautenberg delivered a decisive victory for Sen. Robert Torricelli in his county against Republican Chas. Hayslett. Black voter turnout in Essex was the highest in the state with a comfortable margin of victory while Cooper went down in defeat in Essex by less than 3,000 votes.

In this credit, Senator Lautenberg readily acknowledged the impact of black votes on his campaign.

In 1996 President Clinton and Bob Torricelli were the beneficiaries of strong black voter turnout. Several organizations, including the N.A.A.C.P. and the Essex County Black Minister's Council, launched an aggressive voter registration campaign. Some 35,000 new voters were added to the rolls.

No sooner had the junior U.S. senator won election did he insult the leadership of the clergy council. His chief of staff did further damage by electing a low-key disagreement to a matter of questioning the integrity of the court clerk's decision to award the award effectively put the matter behind both parties. However, not before many blacks were left scratching their heads as to why the senior senator's obvious display of disrespect.

Contrary to popular belief black Democrats do have options. The Essex County executive campaign will force Democrats to show their hand or blacks should call their bluff.

It is beyond belief that blacks are expected to remain loyal to the party while they are being targeted in the process. The threat of white flight to the suburbs is a real one. It is a simple. There is more at stake here than simply Essex. There are significant social-justice implications for Democrats in the inaction in which this campaign is handled.

## Government Rules Akin to "Regulatory Racism"

By Kevin Pritchett

A new Milton E. Eisenhower Foundation report claims the production of the 20-year-old Kerner Commission have come true: America has become two separate societies, one for whites and one for blacks.

Among other things, the report says that high inner-city unemployment, large numbers of incarcerated black males and low minority educational achievement as cuts or more social spending, cuts in the military and other liberal policies.

Government intervention is the problem, however, not the solution. Whether too much regulation or ill-ogical policies, government is stymieing efforts by community-based organizations, hampering efforts to alleviate problems facing inner-city and poor areas through activities like job training, education, tutoring, housing development, homeless care and senior citizen care.

There is a common theme in stories told by "How Government Harms Families," a new report by the African-American leadership network Project 21—that government hurts the poor, especially minority poor. Harmful regulations and red tape are cited as the cause of the harm now inflicted on community-based assistance, as if there is "regulatory racism" at work.

The often-cited law is the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), an initiative to expand handicapped accessibility that has become a barrier to disability-based organizations. The De La Salle Academy, a New York City school for low-income, academically challenged students in grades 7, 8, and 8, Brother Brian's school and renovation of the Academy's rented space would trigger ADA requirements like ramps and an elevator. "But

in New York, it can cost upwards of \$500,000 to install an elevator."

Impact Services Corporation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania provides residential care for the elderly. People with the objective of placing them in the private sector. They are also involved in comprehensive community development, focusing on low-income housing. Executive Director John McDonnell said, "The Davis-Bacon Act, which makes projects too expensive for us. It becomes harder just to bid for jobs. Impact is thus often pushed out of competition."

Government bureaucracy paperwork also hinders community-based organizations. The Hispanic American Multi-Sector Center of Indianapolis, Indiana provides at-risk Hispanic families human services like food, clothing, employment, senior programs, translation, immigration assistance, legal services, pediatric and domestic violence assistance. Center Executive Pam Flores complains, "Sometimes it feels like we're spending 90% of our time on paperwork, and only 10 percent on providing actual services."

Over \$1 billion has been spent on an endeavor "was on cards" over the last few decades. It has created the economic rifts that plague disadvantaged communities. Unfortunately, when citizens try a bottom-up approach in dealing with their community's own problems, government stands in the way of other, hurting minority poor.

While there may be no conspiracy, there seems to be subtle, concerted effort to hurt such groups by regulating them. The ADA, for example, is a good effort to help, but it could be called by its real name—racism.

Kevin Pritchett is policy analyst and a member of the African-American leadership network Project 21.

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# BUSINESS CALENDAR

## FRIDAY, APRIL 15

**PLAINFIELD**—Learn about "Financial Statements" from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Entrepreneurial Training Institute at the Plainfield County Community College Campus. For more info, call 908-527-2946.

**NORTH BRANCH**—A workshop on "Succession Planning for Business" will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Institute for Business and Professional Development. For more info, call 908-218-8771.

**NORTH BRANCH**—A seminar on "The Critical First Year: Starting a Business" will be held at The Institute for Business and Professional Development from 7 to 9 p.m. through April 20th. For more info, call 908-218-8771.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 16

**PLAINFIELD**—A workshop on "Setting Lifetime Goals the quick and easy way" will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the United National Community Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000, ext. 2303.

**EAST ORANGE**—Financial and Technical Assistance for Small Business will be available at the One Hundred Black Men Headquarters from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-645-4604.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**NORTH BRANCH**—An international Trade roundtable, "Capital for small business going international" will be held at Harlan Valley Community College, Faculty Staff Dining Room from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more info, call 908-526-1200.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

**HOLMDEL**—A MEWBEW Business Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Robert B. Mayner Recreation Center. For more info, call 973-491-8902.

## MONDAY, APRIL 20

**JERSEY CITY**—Basic Investing for this "Everyday Person" will be elaborated on from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Hudson County Community College. For more info, call 973-714-2107.

**NORTH BRANCH**—A workshop on "Setting Goals and Planning Your Life" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Institute for Business and Professional Development. For more info, call 908-218-8771.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

**PASSICAPANT**—The Morris County Chamber of Commerce will hold its "Show Me the Technology" Trade Show from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Parsippany Hilton Hotel. Admission is free. For more info, call 973-539-3882, ext. 12.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

**NEWARK**—A free workshop "Marketing and Advertising You and Your Business" will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Newark International Airport. For more info, call 973-961-4278.

**NEW YORK**—A free conference, The Diversity and The Capital Markets will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the World Trade Center. To register, call 212-412-6249.

**SPRINGFIELD**—Refugee Service Engineers Society presents 100 Years to speak on "Upstream and Subsequent" from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. For more info, call 201-734-0055.

## Jersey City hosts regional training program

**JERSEY CITY**—Mayor Bret Schaefer formally unveiled a regional training program for small construction companies, especially those owned by women, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, and Spanish-speakers. The announcement took place in the Council Chambers of City. Interested contractors learned about and had the opportunity to register for the program.

The training program will consist of eight consecutive Wednesday classes that will begin on April 29 and end June 17. The classes will be held at 121-125 Newark Avenue. Contractor currently doing or aspiring to do business with the City of Jersey City are invited to participate for a small tuition fee. Which will cover classroom materials.

Subjects to be covered include Contract Law, Estimating, Accounting Principles, Building, Insurance, Marketing, and Project Management. Major players in these fields will present these courses including Qualified Women/Minorities in Construction; the Township of Irvington; the New Jersey Regional Alliance for Small Business.

Funded by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, the training program is being organized and managed by the Regional Alliance for Small Contractors, a non-profit consulting group with offices in Trenton and the World Trade Center in New York. To date, more than 75 contractors have successfully completed the program in the Irvington area of New Jersey cities including Camden, Trenton, Irvington, and Atlantic City.

For more information about the program, please call Kahlil Tayan, Director of the Jersey City Department of Economic Opportunity, 201-347-5570.

# The doors open at financial institutions

By Harry C. Allford

The biggest flaw in African American communities is the lack of capital access and the nonappearance of fiscal investment. We cannot truly obtain genuine American freedom without economic equity. The final frontier for African Americans is entrepreneurship and robust capital. This cannot be realized without significant changes being made in the state of diversity within the Financial Services Industry. For example, the Wall Street Journal of New York City has over 90,000 stock brokers working daily. Of that 90,000 only 600 are Black! There

is a strong need for change and, fortunately, a change is starting to come.

A few weeks ago, the NBER, the Greenlining Institute and about a dozen other minority business organizations held a series of productive meetings with the financial "gurus" of this nation. What we found was an unanimous attitude of commitment to diversity and to begin "leveling the field" in the Financial Services Industry. Perhaps the best way to sum up the meeting is to provide quotes or summations from the "gurus" we visited.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) - Acting Chairman

Andrew C. Hove, Jr. We need to improve diversity at the Board of Directors level and within top management of our banks. Somehow we need to get the data and evaluate. Also, we need to improve our outreach, perhaps through the minority owned media.

Office of Thrift Supervision - Director Ellen Sedman: Thrift charters are to serve a community purpose, for the entire community. I'm very interested in improving what Thrifts are doing with minority businesses in terms of recruitment.

Federal Reserve Board - Governor Gramlich: Investment houses should start following the CRA (Community Reinvestment Act) principles. We should also monitor minority business

activity at the vendor or procurement level. Governor Meyer: Politics should handle the social issues. Any business improvement should be based on "safety and soundness." Diversity should be based on what it adds to safety and soundness. Chairman Alan Greenspan: There should be more Congressional direction in the laws. The mindset of our lending institutions should be "A good loan is a good loan, regardless of geography." Redlining cannot be allowed to exist.

Fannie Mae - Chairman James A. Johnson: Fannie Mae is very committed to "credit experimentation" to improve the activity of minority home buyers. To date, Fannie Mae has invested \$7 billion into this. We are

actively utilizing minority banks to park our deposits.

Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) - Chairman Arthur Levitt: "I will personally visit the brokerage houses around the nation and promote diversity in the power point areas such as Branch Managers, Underwriters, Executive Officers. These meetings will be to see and very frank. Hopefully, I will make a difference. Also, we will strive to improve minority involvement at the Board Seat level. HBCU college initiatives and general outreach. I am very serious. Yes, the times are changing. Let us seize this moment and not let it pass without progress.

## COBI Declares National week of Investment

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—The Coalition of Black Investors has declared a National Week of Investment April 20-24, 1998. The observance aims to heighten African Americans' awareness of the need to save and invest more aggressively. The unequal distribution of wealth, power and resources has stagnated growth in Black communities," says COBI President Carol Davis. "To build wealth, African Americans must get into the habit of saving and investing, and do so at a higher rate."

Endorsed by the National Urban League, the Week of Investment has garnered the involvement of many organizations and institutions, including Harlem's historic Abyssinian Baptist Church. In San Francisco, Bethel A.M.E. Church is marking the week with a seminar featuring Cheryl Broussard, author of Black Woman's Guide to financial Independence. Claude Anderson, author of Labor, White Wealth, will headline the Cincinnati African-American Chamber of Commerce's Week of Investment observance. In more than 40 cities across the country, fraternal societies, corporate employee groups, and churches are hosting Week of Investment seminars on retirement and college planning, insurance, and forming investment clubs. COBI invites other African-American organizations and churches to support the Week of Investment by urging their members to save and invest, and by sponsoring Week of Investment activities. The week culminates April 24 with Pay Day. "On that Friday," said Ms. Davis, "we ask that African

Americans commit \$25 or more to save or invest on Pay Day and pledge to invest year round. Pledges, ranging from \$50 to \$500 have already come in to our website." A unique economic network, COBI was founded to improve financial literacy and foster communication between advocates investment clubs to help Blacks achieve economic parity.

## Black investors have 'The plan'

The Coalition of Black Investors (COBI) has The Plan that can empower us to control our own destiny. The Plan is simple. The nation's 40 million African Americans must use their \$400 billion a year collective earnings to save and invest more aggressively. Here's how:

- Learn about stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other saving plans.
- Begin saving now for retirement and/or college education.
- Share information and ideas about saving and investing.
- Form investment clubs to pool resources and knowledge.
- Invest in Black-owned businesses.

• Cash in on "The Great Rebate." Own where you spend; buy stock in companies whose products or services you use.

## How your child can become a Millionaire

By Monica Z. Useby

It's probably hard to believe that your children hold the power to become millionaires. But they do. Teenagers will spend \$84 billion of their own money according to Technomic Research. Unlimited, a market research firm based in Northbrook, Ill. The Bureau of Statistics reports that 41 percent of all teens ages 16 to 18 work full or part-time jobs. That means that teens also have the capability of saving \$84 billion dollars.

How do they get started? By getting educated about money, just as they would with anything else. No one walks into an exam without studying because doing so would surely mean a failing grade. The same principle applies to investing.

Twenty years ago, Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko began studying how people became wealthy. In 1997 they published their findings in the book "The Millionaire Next Door." The result was a best-seller. But more importantly, they discovered some startling characteristics about people who are millionaires: most are ordinary people who worked hard, lived below their means and saved a lot.

Stanley and Danko also discovered seven factors that more than likely determine who becomes wealthy and who does not:

- 1 — They live well below their means. That means not buying \$150 sneakers when you only make \$150 a week at your part-time job.
- 2 — They allocate their time, energy, and money efficiently, in ways conducive to building wealth. For a student that may mean studying hard in school and setting financial goals.
- 3 — They believe that financial independence is more important than displaying high social status. That means being proud that instead of paying \$150 for Versace jeans instead you bought \$150 worth of stock in the Versace company that may be worth \$150,000 in ten years.
- 4 — They did not inherit their money. They worked hard to earn it.
- 5 — Their adult children are economically self-sufficient. They have children who grow up to work hard and can a great income.

86 — They are proficient in targeting market opportunities. That means that often they are entrepreneurs and take advantage of legal money-making opportunities when presented.

87 — They chose the right occupation. They know what jobs will make them the most money and rise to the top of their field.

Now that you and your child know the top seven things they can do to become a millionaire, there are many ways to get started. Young America's Bank (YAB) in Denver, Colorado is the world's first and only state-chartered, FDIC-insured commercial bank for young people under age 22. It educates young people how to use bank services and offers savings and checking accounts, certificates of deposits, loans, credit cards, ATM cards and more. For as little as \$10, your child can open a savings account. Also, on Saturday mornings, YAB customers can learn about mutual funds from INVESCO Funds Group, who through a partnership with the bank offers young people the opportunity to purchase with low minimums.

If you or people you know eat at McDonald's, drink Pepsi and buy all your jeans from the Gap, why not invest in these companies by buying stock? Observe the trends that are taking place around you and what people are buying. More importantly, observe the economy. Because it doesn't take much to get started on your way to becoming a millionaire.

Start building wealth today...  
• Young America's Bank  
www.theyoungamericans.org 303-321-2954

• Stein Rowe Young Investor's Fund www.steinrowe.com 1-800-338-2550  
• Twentieth Century Gifttrust www.20cfinancial.com 1-800-345-2021

• The Direct Stock Purchase Plan Clearinghouse offers investors the chance to buy stock directly 1-800-774-4117

## Speak of the money

A race that can not save its earnings can never rise in the scale of civilization.

—Frederick Douglass

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## Religion Calendar

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

EDISON—Mount Olive Church celebrates its twentieth anniversary of Rev. Nichols as pastor at the Pineas Building, 27, 6 p.m. For more info, call 908-754-0333.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

PLAINFIELD—Rabbi Abrams will discuss "How to Win and How to Lose" as a way of applying a Talmudic perspective to contemporary life. This will begin at 8:15 p.m. at Temple Shalom. For more info, call 908-754-6447.

MONDAY, APRIL 20

NEW YORK—A lecture by Professor Charles Hallisey of Harvard University on "Growing Children and Abandoned Parents: Dependence and Moral Agency in Buddhism" will be held at the Scott Skidmore Business Development Center, Second Fl., for more info, call 518-643-6618.

## Open letter to the lost sons and daughters of Africa and those that will accept it

*Greetings in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God, Amen.*

This letter is intended to let our communities of America and the Caribbean (The sons & daughters of Africa) who are not aware that the oldest nation on Earth (Ethiopia) has sent to the Western Hemisphere her gift to all children and anyone else who will accept it.

Be aware that ancient Christianity began in Ethiopia (Africa) in 34 A.D. with the baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch by St. Philip (see Acts 8:26-39). He was the treasurer (in Queen Candace) who was Queen for all Ethiopians and the first ruler baptized into Christianity.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church (the church of Africa, is known as the most ancient Christian church in the world, and is one of the founding members of the World Council of Churches. This church is here for you as an alternative for those who wish to know the truth and worship in the original language. Your culture and your ancient way of worshipping God is still alive and preserved for you in this church, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church.

Whether you were of a former religion persuasion or not, we want you to be aware that your Mother Church is here for you to teach you the true way to salvation. Jesus answered, "Verily verily say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church is also known as the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. The name Tewahedo (made onwos) chosen to profess the same nature of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Eyes Christ).

### A brief historical fact

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, Church of Africa is known as the most ancient Christian church in the world, and one of the founding members of the World Council of Churches. The majority of the population of Ethiopia, or between eighty-five to ninety percent belongs to the Church. The Church was the source of all the education of the nation, including art, crafts, literature, and all secular and theological institutions.

### The one true God

Ethiopia was the first African nation to worship the One True God of the Old Testament. This was officially established by Queen Makada on return from her historic visit to King Solomon in Jerusalem. Their union produced King Menelik I. The Queen Nagast states, "When Menelik grew up he visited his Father Solomon in Jerusalem and returned home to Ethiopia with the true faith of the Covenant accompanied by Azarias, the son of Zadok, the High Priest, some other priests and several other Israelites." The Ark of the Covenant remains in Ethiopia until this day.

Ethiopia in the bible  
"Woe to the land shadowing with wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia:  
"Isaiah 18:1:  
"The green of the South shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the EARTH to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, a greater than Solomon is here."  
Matthew Ch. 12:42:  
Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? Said the LORD:  
As written in Amos 9:7:  
"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?"  
As written in Jeremiah 13:23.

### St. Michael's was established

In 1982 a mission of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church was established in New Jersey. It was in 1994 that St. Michael's was officially established and consecrated by His Eminence Abuna Mathias. The place of worship is located at 113 E. Street, Englewood, NJ.  
For more information, call (201) 833-4760 or fax (201) 833-2884.

# The indomitable human spirit

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"There is an indomitable quality within the human spirit that cannot be destroyed, a face deep within the human personality that is impregnable to all assaults. They rest so deeply that prejudice, oppression, tyranny, riots, time or weakness can never corrode or destroy them." Chester Himes

"What profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit (suffer) his own soul?" Jesus Ben Joseph  
Each of us had been endowed by the Creator with an animating energy which gives us life, provides varying levels of consciousness which constantly urges us to demonstrate our innate divinity, genius and gifts. This animating force/consciousness is part and parcel to the human spirit of sync

writer Chester Himes spoke of: It is that part of us that transcends time and space and the mutability of worldly possessions. Because it is divine, its essence is godliness. It is righteous, holy, unconquerable, invincible and incorruptible. This non-material energy/spirit/consciousness is the core of our humanity.

This is the great paradox of the ages—we are spiritual beings clothed in magnificent physical form. This is the secret that as long as it remains undisclosed, will continue to befuddle all humanity. We struggle and stumble like disoriented drunks along life's pathway primarily because we fail to comprehend "the Kingdom of God is within." We are woefully ignorant of who and what we are. Our ignorance makes it easier for us to be manipulated, distracted and to live lives out of sync with our true purpose and life

destiny. If we really knew who and what we are, there would be no limit to what we could accomplish.

Life on this material plane is about growth and change. We are all here to grow and develop. This cannot occur without struggle, resistance or opposition. The Creator in infinite wisdom provided us with an indomitable spirit, one that allows us to withstand "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," to bounce back and to transcend the vicissitudes and storms of life. We are all stronger and more powerful than we know. What is the difference between someone who lives life to beat and grind him down and another who faces the trials and tribulations head on, presses on and overcomes? It is that the latter taps into his inner reservoir of energy, intelligence and dynamism and allows it to enhance and empower his life.

What was it that allowed our ancestors to endure the ravages of the long treks to the slave castles, the Middle Passage, the debasement of slavery and its aftermath? It was the power of their indomitable spirit. Yes, they prayed, cried and poured out their souls in anguish and angst and no, it was not pleasant. We are here today because of their struggles, strength and determination. We should never forget we stand upon their shoulders. We have the very same endurance, resilience and spirit in us. Our task is to direct our inner resources to lift ourselves up, not by our bootstraps, but inwardly through our consciousness and awareness of our indwelling dynamism and genius. The answers to all our problems are within us. We must cease searching outside ourselves for power and solution.

## Meet people in a Christian atmosphere

NEWARK—Chocolate Christian Singles are looking for individuals who would like to mix and mingle with other like-minded people to the strains of gospel music in a smoke-free, alcohol-free environment.

The group will be holding workshops/seminars at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark every Saturday, 1-6 p.m. which includes a new members orientation and refreshments. These events are free to members and \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door for non-members.

Chocolate Christian Singles also sponsors other gospel functions. For information on other events and membership, call Sylvia Black, 201-646-9156.

## The Mysteries of the Bible Code

By Janice Malone

For 3000 years a code in the Bible has remained hidden. Recently uncovered by computer, it may reveal our future. In the book "The Bible Code," best-selling author and former Washington Post/Wall Street Journal reporter Michael Drosnin, provides the first full account of the hidden code, based on his two-year investigation. The book has become a leading best-seller around the world. Michael Drosnin has appeared on numerous national TV shows, including "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

The Bible Code was one of 1997's top-selling books worldwide. The code reveals events that the Bible predicted thousands of years before they happened. They include: the Oklahoma City bombing, both Kennedy assassinations, everything from World War II to Watergate, even President Clinton's 1992 election. Information about the collision of the "Shomaker-Levy" comet with the planet Jupiter is encoded in both the Book of Genesis and the Book of Isaiah.

The Bible Code raises the big questions such as, is it the first scientific evidence of the existence of God? Can the future be foreseen, or changed? Author Michael Drosnin answers these questions and offers in this exclusive interview:

**The Scoop: What is The Bible Code?**

**Drosnin:** There's a Bible beneath the Bible hidden within the original Hebrew text of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. According to the Bible itself, these are the books God dictated to Moses on Mount Sinai. The code contains a network of names, dates, events, phrases, places that are revealed by a simple skip code, that tells information about past, present and future events. It's as if it's a code within the Bible that's so far accurately foretold events thousands of years after the Bible was written.

**Scoop: Is the word "computer" found in The Bible Code?**

**Drosnin:** I believe it's found six times within the plain text of the Bible, there will be found hidden references to the word computer.

**Scoop: In addition to the revelation about prime minister rabbin's assassination, what other events in recent times have been found in the code?**

**Drosnin:** The most extraordinary thing is when we find the event encoded in the Bible in advance and then watch these events later take place as predicted in the code. This is what happened with Yitzhak Rabin. I found his assassination encoded in the Bible a year before he was killed. I personally warned him a year ahead of time. That also happened with the Gulf War. The Israelis who did the original research found the exact date of the first missile attack in the code weeks before.



it happened. We later found the exact date the comet Shomaker-Levy would impact the planet Jupiter two months before the collision took place.

**Scoop: What does The Bible Code say about Israel being in danger?**

**Drosnin:** The only city that's encoded with the words "anemic, blood-casts" and "world war" is Jerusalem. Now one doesn't need a code in the Bible to know that the Middle East may erupt into warfare again. And we don't need a code in the Bible to understand the danger of nuclear war in the world. But perhaps 3000 year old code in the Bible makes the danger really explicit and will be sort of a wake up call to everyone to hopefully step back from the madness and prevent this horror from happening.

**Scoop: How has the religious community reacted to your book?**

**Drosnin:** My book has become a number one best-seller on several religious book lists in America and around the world. It's even our best-selling Bill Graham's book on certain lists. All of this has really shocked me when I saw Publisher's Weekly list. I am not a religious. I don't even believe in God. There are some religious leaders who've attacked the book though. They seem to feel threatened by it. My guess is it's because they see a Bible that's set in stone. The Bible is a dynamic information base that's currently talking to us all over again. Some religious leaders seem to want the Bible to be a sealed text which they can interpret for the rest of us. But they shouldn't fear it.

**Scoop: After reading your book, should people be afraid?**

**Drosnin:** No, I think they should experience some sense of awe, some sense of wonderment. Their curiosity should certainly be aroused. Every new scientific discovery should do that. We should be no more afraid of a code in the Bible than when it was discovered that the earth circles the sun. That should cause us to want to roll up our sleeves and get to work in preventing any dangers that might be very real.

## Cavalry Baptist extends service to the community

PLAINFIELD—A Plainfield church plans to bring a wide range of services to the local community with the first phase completion of construction of a new addition set to open April 19.

Cavalry Baptist Church's \$1 million Family Life Center will be built to enhance the quality of life by making available various outreach and personal development programs, such as adult day care, tutoring and evening support groups. "We hope to achieve partnership with families in the community," said William Gerald Howard, pastor of Cavalry Baptist.



"We want them to feel that they can be a part of the center."

Built adjacent to the church, the culmination of first phase is the completion of the center's lower level. One of the major features in this structure is the two-story Gymnasium/Banquet Hall. This will enable local churches to have the space to work together on events and be the focal point of all outreach activities.

Additionally, "We want to help provide lodging for displaced families during the daylight hours," said pastor Howard.

Plans for this building started in 1984 when the 300 church members formed the Monroe Avenue Development Corporation, the building and finance arm of the project. After several years of planning, and waiting for the right time, fundraising began in earnest for the project in 1990.



## HOWARD UNIVERSITY LEADERS FOR AMERICA

Matthew Watley

Howard University  
Graduate Divinity Student  
West Orange High School  
West Orange, New Jersey  
Class of 1991

"I know that at Howard I'm getting experience I couldn't get anywhere else. I am challenged by the very best professors. I am among the best students in the nation, and I have access to resources you won't find at other colleges and universities."



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For information on admission to Howard University, call 1-800-HOWARD-U (1-800-469-2738) or visit our website at <http://www.howard.edu>.

## The Cathedral Preparatory Academy of The Cathedral-Second Baptist Church

## Open House

Saturday, April 25, 1998

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

205 Smith Street  
Perth Amboy, N.J.Applications accepted now  
for the '98-'99 school year!

For more information, call (732) 826-6898.

# HEALTH

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

**BELLE MEAD**—A full-day medical symposium will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Atlantic Amphitheater on Carrier Foundation's Belle Mead campus. For more info, call 908-281-1513.

**BELLE MEAD**—Volunteers are needed at the Belle Mead campus to staff Carrier's Information Desk from 9 to 8 p.m. on weekdays and weekend evenings. For more info, please call Gloria Mahland at 908-281-1316.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16**  
**MORRISTOWN**—The second annual health and wellness summit will be held at the McGuire Lounge. For more info, call 973-290-4442.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18**

**WESTFIELD**—A workshop entitled "Sexual Abuse, Addiction and Recovery" will be presented by the Hart County on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Union County from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the NCADD offices at 300 North Ave., East. For more info, call 908-233-8910.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19**

**NEW YORK**—The National Kidney Foundation of NY and NJ issues annual organ donor challenge to all Americans during Heart, Lung and Tissue Donor Awareness Week through the 25th. To receive a free of cost booklet, call 800-233-8910 or 800-233-8910. For more info, call 888-840-3762 or 212-629-9770.

## Osteoporosis: Prevention and treatment

By Venkat Gandhi, M.D., E.A.C.P.

Despite remarkable technological advances allowing physicians to recognize early indicators for osteoporosis and treat the disease at risk of not taking steps to avoid the serious consequences of bone loss. The predominant consequence, spontaneous or trauma-induced fracture leading to extended hospitalization, long-term residential care, is a significant causal factor for pneumonia and other life-threatening complications in the elderly.

**Start Young**

The best treatment for osteoporosis is prevention. We advise women, even in their twenties before bone loss starts, to set up appropriate nutritional habits and lifestyle patterns. Strong personal health habits started early become second nature as women experience menopause, when bone loss accelerates from loss of natural estrogen. Activities such as regular participation in bone loading sports or routine exercise, such as walking and weight-lifting.

Calcium and vitamin D intake, through foods and dietary supplements, are important, with milk, cheese, and certain leafy green vegetables providing beneficial. Aging increases the risk of ischemic heart disease as well as osteoporosis; dairy products should be reduced or low fat. Be aware that excessive alcohol intake and smoking also diminish bone cell growth.

Estrogen production slows as women begin peri-menopause and eventually the ovaries cease to produce the hormone altogether. This hormone depletion also holds true for women who have undergone hysterectomy or experienced premature ovarian failure. Although estrogen remains in the body, there is not enough to counteract the three-percent annual rate of bone loss. At this time, women have the option of initiating hormone replacement therapy (HRT)—usually a combination of estrogen and progesterone.

**Several Treatment Options**

Although decades of research has demonstrated superior liver and heart benefits from HRT, some women are not candidates for this regimen because of medical history or personal choice. In addition to consistent bone loss and nutrition, this population can choose from several options. One evaluative test—low dosage bone densitometry to assess fracture risk, and aid women in collection to determine the rate of collagen excretion—signal the onset and degree of osteoporosis, intervention with conservative medications is available. Most of these options were not available as recently as ten years ago.

The medication most recently approved by the FDA is alendronate (Fosamax). Taken with a full glass of water a half hour before eating or drinking anything else, Fosamax shows remarkable results in clinical trials. Women with more advanced symptoms of disease now can take the newest, nasal-spray form of calcitonin (Miacalcin), previously only available through injection. Although another medication, sodium fluoride, was shown to increase bone density, it did not reduce fracture rates.

**Venkat Gandhi, M.D., is an endocrinologist and a member of the Osteoporosis panel of the Westchester Health Center at Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville.**

# Robert Wood Johnson provide greater outreach with grant

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—A recent ceremony held at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, AT&T was lauded for its contribution to undertake new efforts to improve the health of African Americans in central New Jersey.

Hospital Senior Vice President Stephen K. Jones, FACHE, praised AT&T for its continuing commitment to the success of the Community Health Promotion Program. "The spirit of reaching out—connecting people—is reflected in AT&T's philanthropy through the continuing support of programs that encourage diversity and increase accessibility to promote the health and well-being of children and families," said Jones.

"As New Jersey's premier academic medical center, we are committed to assist in our special effort to improve the health-related problems of the poor and medically underserved population throughout the area."

Many innovative and highly targeted programs have been funded by the \$25,000 AT&T grant according to Mariam Merced, Director of Community Health Promotion, "AT&T's funds, enable us to continue to build a healthier community," Merced noted. "For example, through their generosity we were able to provide a summer camp to teach

Latino and African American children to resist gangs and violence. We also organized free health fairs and screening programs out in the community working closely with the local churches. Recently we conducted prostate cancer screenings targeted to high risk African American men and offered CPR courses in Spanish."

The recognition event included presentation of a plaque to AT&T which was accepted by Gus Merkel, Director of Community Relations for Atlantic States at AT&T. "AT&T is pleased to partner with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital to reach those communities who are at risk with health problems," said Merkel.

The hospital also used the occasion to celebrate another program orchestrated by Community Health Promotion which fit nicely with the AT&T hallmark of reaching out for better communication. Nineteen employees were honored as graduates of the hospital's Medical Spanish and Sign Language classes. The courses are offered to enhance communication with Spanish-speaking and hearing impaired patients and their family members. Employees from many different departments volunteer to study these languages, which are offered through the hospital's Career Center. In addition, the hospital provides translators in 42 languages.

Bauer said that women eligible for the study are those who have had breast cancer and who have completed chemotherapy. If selected, subjects will be asked to attend two meetings approximately three months apart. Participants will be asked to record their food intake for two three-day periods and to submit two urine samples.

Dr. Susan Love, author of "Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book," has endorsed the premise behind the study. Eating a diet which includes five servings of vegetables a day is one of the most important things women can do to help prevent breast cancer.

If the study is successful, it could pave the way for more effective, less costly nutrition education programs which would help many other people," said Charlotte Perry, project coordinator.

Anyone interested is asked to call Bauer at 973-655-7155.

**UPPER MONTCLAIR**—Montclair State University and Hackensack Medical Center researchers are seeking breast cancer patients as volunteers for a nutrition education study.

over-the-counter medicines such as aspirin, cold remedies, antacids, or other pain relievers or get a x-ray without checking with your health-care provider. Don't use illegal drugs such as marijuana, heroin, cocaine, or crack. These substances can be harmful to pregnant women and their babies. They can cause babies to have breathing problems, brain damage, and birth defects.

The Healthy Start initiative encourages pregnant women and their partners to adopt healthy behaviors during pregnancy and to maintain them until their babies are born.

For more information on prenatal care services, tips for a healthy pregnancy, or to find out if there is a Healthy Start program in your community, call toll free, 1-800-311-BABY (2229) (English speakers) or 1-800-304-7081 (Spanish speakers).

Don't smoke cigarettes, or drink liquor, beer, wine, or cocaine; don't use

fruits, juice, or milk daily.

• Eat three healthy meals daily, plus healthy snacks.

• Drink six to eight glasses of water.

• Exercise regularly—walking in a safe place is a good exercise for mothers-to-be.

• Gain 25 to 35 pounds during pregnancy.

• Don't smoke cigarettes, or drink liquor, beer, wine, or cocaine; don't use

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# April is Child Abuse Prevention Month A Healthy Start for Healthy Babies

**PARTISAN**—Governor Christine Todd Whitman proclaimed April to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in an effort to "recognize the magnitude of the problem of child abuse and neglect and to increase public awareness of the problem and increase community support and involvement" in New Jersey.

The proclamation will help many organizations, created to aid abused children, to promote their programs and expand their services. Governor Whitman urged "all my fellow citizens to become involved in the efforts aimed at preventing our children from being abused and neglected."

With the cooperation of many volunteers and the support of the Delta Dental Endowment Association, the philanthropic arm of Delta Dental Plan of New Jersey, state residents can receive free training to learn to recognize and report child abuse. The program is called Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness or P.A.N.D.A.

There are more than one million victims of child abuse and neglect. 1,000 of whom die, annually in the United States. However, very few

reports of suspected abuse came from the dental profession. According to Lawrence Dobritz, D.M.D., a P.A.N.D.A. coalition member and forensic dentist, dentists are in a good position to observe a problem because they can examine a child's head, neck or face area while in the dentist chair. It is especially important to educate teachers and healthcare professionals who work closely with children, although anyone who suspects abuse or neglect is mandated by state law to report it to authorities. Studies have shown that dentists are nearly five times as likely to report suspected abuse if they are educated in this area.

Child abuse prevention measures include supporting activities that raise public awareness of the problem, volunteering for local programs, reporting suspected abuse, making a contribution to a prevention organization or promoting such programs in local schools. The P.A.N.D.A. program, implemented by many Delta Dental plans nationwide, is recognized by the symbol of a black and white panda.

The campaign encourages people to wear a blue ribbon during the month of April to remind everyone that "it shouldn't hurt to be a child."

## Union County celebrates National Infant Immunization Awareness Week

**ELIZABETH**—National Infant Immunization Awareness Week is April 19-25, and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders want to remind residents of the availability of the County's Division of Social Services/Immunization Center, located at 342 Westminster Avenue in Elizabeth.

Our children need to be protected from diseases such as mumps and measles that can be potentially fatal even though they are often not serious. It is said measles is a deadly disease. Deborah P. Scanlon, liaison to the RUMMELSHOF Hospital Board of Managers, "Childhood diseases can

be prevented by getting the proper vaccinations, and any child who lives in Union County can get immunized at our center, free of charge. No appointment is necessary, parents or guardians should bring records of previous immunizations if available."

There are 10 potentially fatal diseases that children should be immunized against. They are measles, mumps, rubella (German measles), chickenpox, polio, Hepatitis B, Tetanus (lockjaw), diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and influenza type B.

Immunization Center is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## Internet therapy

**NEWARK**—In the past, if you were scared to go to therapy there was nothing you could do.

Talking to a therapist about being afraid to go to therapy is possible when you cannot make it to the therapist's office.

Now, a new tool is available of the Internet which can help therapy-phobes. The unique Openness to Therapy Assessment (OTA) over the twenty-five most common reasons that create discomfort and even fear in

people when they contemplate entering the therapist's office. The OTA is scored online and results returned within minutes.

This is the only tool available to help people feel more comfortable about starting therapy. The OTA evaluation results provides a variety of suggestions to help bring down the wall of fear and inhibition.

See for yourself on the OTA web page: <http://www.1-800-therapist.com>.

## Ramapo hosts teleconference on grief

**MAHWAH**—On Wednesday, April 22, Ramapo College of New Jersey will join 2,000 other organizations across the U.S. and Canada as a local host for the Hospice Foundation of America's fifth annual National Bereavement Teleconference, "Living with Grief: Who We Are, How We Grieve."

The two-and-one-half-hour panel discussion will include Ronald K. Barrett, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles who specializes in the study of cross-cultural differences in death and dying; Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D., Lutheran minister and professor of gerontology at the College of New Rochelle; Bernice Catherine Harper, M.S.W., Macc, Ph.D., L.I.D., with the Health Care Financing Administration, well known in the field of long-term

care; Patricia Murphy, R.N., Ph.D., F.A.N., clinical specialist in ethics and bereavement at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center; and Bradley Stuart, M.D., Hospice Medical Director for VNA and Hospice of Northern California.

Last year's teleconference was seen by more than 150,000 people in over 2,000 communities. One participant who host the program every year noted that the teleconferences "have served the needs of diverse groups - our students, faculty, staff, family members and guests."

"Loss touches us all," said Jack D. Gordon, President of the Hospice Foundation of America. "Grief is a universal condition and at the same time an intensely individual process."

Ramapo's on-site program begins at 1:30 p.m. and is being conducted by Professor Patricia Han-Perry. The program is open to the public, however, for a program packet and agenda, please contact the School of Social Science and Human Services 201-529-7625.

## Breast cancer patients needed for study

**UPPER MONTCLAIR**—Montclair State University and Hackensack Medical Center researchers are seeking breast cancer patients as volunteers for a nutrition education study.

"We are conducting an innovative nutrition education study to help increase vegetable intake, since women who have a higher intake of vegetables have a lower risk of developing breast cancer," said Kathleen Bauer, Ph.D., R.D., an associate professor of nutrition at Montclair State. Bauer said that women eligible for the study are those who have had breast cancer and who have completed chemotherapy. If selected, subjects will be asked to attend two meetings approximately three months apart. Participants will be asked to record their food intake for two three-day periods and to submit two urine samples.

Dr. Susan Love, author of "Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book," has endorsed the premise behind the study. Eating a diet which includes five servings of vegetables a day is one of the most important things women can do to help prevent breast cancer.

If the study is successful, it could pave the way for more effective, less costly nutrition education programs which would help many other people," said Charlotte Perry, project coordinator.

Anyone interested is asked to call Bauer at 973-655-7155.

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# Arts Wednesday

April 15-April 21, 1998

City News 8

## Billboard

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

**PLAINFIELD**—A poetry reading will be held from 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Plainfield Public Library. For more info, call 908-767-1111.

**NEW YORK**—An unprecedented exhibition of leading contemporary Chinese Calligraphy will be on view at Columbia's Weltsch Art Gallery. For more info, call 212-654-5077.

**TRENTON**—"Mail Leipzig: A Retrospective" will be on view at the NJ State Museum through May 31st. The central themes of Mail Leipzig's works are family, friends and the everyday events of life. For more info, call 609-292-4664.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—Crossroads Theatre Company closes its 20th anniversary season with the Genesis Festival of New Plays through April 19th. "Love is Blind" by Lynn Herring shows at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-593-0189.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

**MADISON**—A Student Production "Crimes of the Heart" will be performed at 8 p.m. in the Dryhurst Theater, Dryhurst Building. For more info, call 973-443-6661.

**WBGW 8.3 FM**—WBGW will broadcast a live performance of Afro-Cuban and Latin jazz artist Bobby Sanabria and his group Asesopon Percussionist Cardillo also performs. The broadcast is live from the Pinyon Restaurant at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-624-6880, ext. 205.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**SOMERSET**—The Village's Theater presents "Company," a musical comedy by Stephen Sondheim at 8:30 p.m. For more info, call 732-873-2710.

**CAPE MAY**—The 9th Cape May Jazz Festival will be held at The Grand Hotel, Cape May, New Jersey. The Top of the Merger and the Gold Medal; Carney's; The Rusty Nail; and The Gate at Congress Hall. For more info, call 609-684-7277.

**NEWARK**—Scholarship Auditions for the Dance Academy program directed by Alvin Ailey, Alford Gellman will be held at 12 p.m. at the Newark Convention Center. For more info, call 973-642-0133.

**LONG ISLAND**—Johnny Mathis will perform at Westbury Music Hall through the 16th. Showtime is 8 p.m. For more info, call 516-534-0800.

**NEWARK**—131 young orchestra musicians representing 83 cities throughout New Jersey will perform at the first NJ Youth Orchestra Festival, through the 19th at the NJ Performing Arts Center. For more info call 973-297-5634.

**UNION**—Dance will be presented by the Kean Dance Theatre through the 18th. For additional info, call 908-527-2337.

**NEW YORK**—"Remembering We Seives: Black Renaissance in Harlem" written by and featuring Amiri Baraka will be performed at 7 p.m. at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. For more info, call 212-461-2200.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

**WATCHING**—An entertaining show by song, Roger Daltrey will be held at 8 p.m. at the Webster Arts Center. For more info, call 609-754-0189.

**MOUNTAIN SIDE**—The Arc of Union County will be holding its Annual Candlelight Ball at LaBarr's Cottages and Gardens. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing at 8:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-754-7505.

## Getting the message across: Authors who publish themselves

**She's Been Blessed by Dorothy Hazard**  
Flamingo Publishing Company  
Newark resident Dorothy Hazard has written and self-published her first novel entitled *She's Been Blessed*. The book is now in bookstores primarily in the Essex County area.



**Royal**  
*She's Been Blessed* is a story about the life of Sabrina Brown, a college student turned high class prostitute.

Born on the South Side of Chicago, Sabrina Brown, an aspiring young student, moves to the Big Apple to attend college, where the glamour and excitement of the city entices her into the world of high class prostitution.

She enjoys her new career tremendously, and is seemingly protected from the pitfalls of the profession as though by a supernatural force. But, will this protection last forever? Or, will she too be stung by the evil

forces of Satan?

This book can also be obtained through mail order. To order, contact Flamingo Publishing Company, PO Box 8382, Newark, New Jersey 07108, or phone 973-242-1274. The book is \$20 plus \$4 shipping and handling.

**No More Yesterdays by A. Bertrand Royal, MD**  
Vantage Press

*No More Yesterdays* was written by another long-time Newark resident, the late Dr. A. Bertrand Royal. Dr. Royal had a successful medical



career in Newark's West Ward from the late 1950's to the mid '80. This book is the inspiring tale of a young man fighting racial prejudice to achieve the two dreams of his life: becoming a doctor and marrying the girl he loves. In this novel, Harvey Gates is forced out of his hometown when scandal erupts as a result of his

Hazard

practice in Newark's West Ward from the late 1950's to the mid '80. This book is the inspiring tale of a young man fighting racial prejudice to achieve the two dreams of his life: becoming a doctor and marrying the girl he loves. In this novel, Harvey Gates is forced out of his hometown when scandal erupts as a result of his

making the most fatal mistake a black man can make in the 1940's South: falling in love with a white girl. Zonky the revelation of a long-held family secret would save Harvey from a lynch mob. Attending medical school and starting up his own practice offer still more challenges that Harvey

overcomes.

This book was Dr. Royal's second. He is also the author of *Which Way to Heaven*, a novel that began the story of Harvey Gates. To order this book, contact Vantage Press, Inc. 516 W. 34th Street, New York, NY 10001, or phone 212-736-1767. The cost of this book is \$16.95.

**TUT Language by Gloria McIlwain**  
Tut Language Company

San Francisco author Gloria McIlwain was born in the farming town of Methuen, Massachusetts dur-

ing the Great Depression. Gloria spoke many of the European and Middle Eastern languages of her first generation immigrant neighbors. And she also spoke the language of her ancestors. TUT. As a child, she often heard her mother and aunts' conversations of familiar sounds, but not words that she could understand. Gloria's mother explained that it was TUT: a language that was secretly created by slaves when it was against the law for them to learn how to read.

Now after more than 250 years of secrecy, a language used by slaves to protect themselves and their families has been discovered. Gloria McIlwain's book on TUT Language is the first and only comprehensive work that covers the history of this almost extinct language.

Using more than 150 cleverly designed graphics with Tut-Words, and a glossary of over 130 Tut-Words with English translation.

To order a copy of *TUT Language* call 1-800-539-2615. The cost of the book is \$12.95 plus \$3.95 shipping and handling. For further information call 415-346-1183.

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## Artz Briefs

### African-American Bridal Expo is two-day event

**PLAINFIELD**—Over 100 vendors, offering of best of products and services specifically for the African-American bride, will come together for the WBLS African-American Bridal Expo, 1998 Spring Edition, sponsored by Caribbean Life, City News and Minority Business Journal. The two day event takes place at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, New Jersey April 29-30. From 4 to 11 p.m.

Bridal services offered include hall rentals, wedding coordinators, florists, caterers, engravers, photographers, entertainment and travel agents. Companies will also display a host of products, including fine china, cakes, party favors, hairware, crystal, headpieces, lingerie, wedding apparel, tuxedos, magazines, and more. In addition, there will be a premier African-American Bridal Fashion Show featuring the top African-American designers.

For further information, call the Bridal Expo hotline at 718-857-8609.



Telephone  
(908) 469-7932  
Fax (908) 469-7520

## Victory for Puff Daddy

**NEW YORK**—Puff Daddy shares a moment with film star Danny DeVito in advance of the premiere video co-starring Busta Rhymes with cameo appearances by DeVito and Dennis Hopper premiered on MTV, BET and the BOX recently. The video, "Victory" is a post-World War III urban decay, directed by Marcus Nispel. The video opens on a futuristic, godlike, dark and rainy city. Puff Daddy holds the weight of the world on his shoulders. He speaks for those who cannot speak for themselves, the oppressed, the downtrodden and the undesirable. The evil corporate institutions headed by Dennis Hopper now control the fate of the underprivileged. Puff Daddy, with help from his friend Busta Rhymes, looks to tear it all apart.

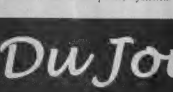


## All That Jive

African Globe Theatre Works, a Newark based non-profit theatre production company currently resides in the Newark Symphony Hall's 2nd Floor is pleased to present *All That Jive*. *All That Jive* is a satirical look at the image, plot and themes, presented on film, film and throughout the media of African Americans. All That Jive brings together some of television's most popular characters from the 70s, and 80s into a fast paced, hysterical

search for the money and the murder. A surprising case of "who done it" and why. All That Jive will laugh you out your seat as you find who's really jive!

The Play will be presented April 17, 18, & 19. All dates are Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m. The Society Music Hall, 1020 Broad Street, Newark, NJ, 07102.



by Alexandra R. Hunter

vowels and start buying production companies like Bill Cosby, Eddie Murphy and Whitney Houston have done. Says Houston about producing her first feature film, based on the book "How To Marry A Black Man," "As black men and women, when we get enough money, we need to start owning our own companies. We have to start employing ourselves in decision-making positions, because to one else is going to bring us up... but us."

So what are the biggies getting paid in salary per role? Bruce Willis will see about \$5 million for his heroics in "D.H.I." John Travolta, who earned \$25,000 in "In Living Color" now lives larger than life on an asking price of \$20 million. John Travolta, who must have been stuck in traffic on the Santa Monica freeway during the eighties, earns about \$17 million a picture and Eddie Murphy collects \$16 million. Sandra Bullock pulls in \$12.5 million. Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington earn \$10 million, and Vanessa Williams, who reportedly got five million for "Eraser" is asking for even more now that she's proven that she can act as well as in theater seats. And actresses that get covers of the hair magazines and fannies, like Jada Pinkett, Vivica A. Fox, and Nia Long only see a fraction of those figures despite popularity amongst the ghetto fabulous set.

Looking at Entertainment Weekly's

list of the most influential people in Hollywood, only one black, 42 year old Oprah Winfrey, who made about \$250 million last year, ranks in the top twenty. White males, Rupert Murdoch, Chairman, Chief Executive of News Corp, Michael Eisner, Chairman, CEO of The Walt Disney Company, and Gerald Levin: Chairman of Time Warner start the list and it only gets whiter. White males don't see African American stories as being salable, important or even existent and since they don't know our history or feel our struggle, they certainly don't see why we should be paid top dollar for our presence on the big screen.

There are two guys trying to change the above travesty. Hype Williams, who is directing his first full length feature, "Belly," a hip-hop film, which he also wrote with Ice Cube. Cube, if you'll remember, starred in John Singleton's Academy Award-nominated "Boyz n the Hood" and Higher Learning. Most recently he starred in Darrell Rood's "Dangerous Ground," an urban drug-related drama filmed mostly in Johannesburg. The Executive producer of The Players Club, one of the best East meets West soundtracks of the year, has written one other screenplay, "Defense, now in pre-production.

## Too Turn

If writer Neil Gaiman was out point when in an Esquire article, he said that Hollywood didn't function like a plantation during the thirties and forties, then, at least, it's a damn thing changed since the "good old days." It's

Ice Cube  
fifty years later and slavery is a hot form of enterprise in the film industry. Major studio heads still run things with Jay Crow laws as their mantra. Well paid flunkies are the overseers, white actors are high yellow house niggers who get the honors of doing the horizontal bandage with musta and the faithful black counterparts - bless their hearts - are thought to be the missing link between human and primate. So they, obviously, serve as lively field niggers.

Sounds lucrative if you're the master, but if you've got cotton in your ginnings this ethically-vacuous system is fast becoming a herpes canker sore above the top lip until paid black actors stop buying fancy cars with names that end in

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# Classified/Legals

## Legal Notice

## Legal Notice

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**NJ TRANSIT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ Transit) is conducting public hearings in order to gather information and receive comments from interested parties concerning programs developed pursuant to the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act (SDORTA). A hearing will be held in each geographic region in accordance with Section 5 of P.L. 1984-c379 of SDORTA. Each hearing will have an afternoon and evening session. The locations are in addition, Mr. Holly and Newark, New Jersey in accordance with the statute.

The Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program funds capital, operating and/or administrative expenses for locally coordinated paratransit services for senior citizens and people with disabilities. This program also funds accessibility improvements to NJ TRANSIT's fixed route bus and rail system, the provision of technical assistance to the counties and the administration of the statewide program. The hearings will also provide an update on NJ TRANSIT's progress in implementing its American with Disabilities Act accessibility improvements including Access Link paratransit and key rail stations. All materials to be reviewed at these hearings are available in accessible formats on request. Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact Albert R. Heidebreck, II at (973) 481-7022 no later than five (5) business days prior to the public hearing or an interpreter will not be available for the particular hearing.

The public is invited to these hearings at which time they will have a full opportunity to express their views, to order in person that all members of the public are given an opportunity to be heard, initial presentations will be limited to five (5) minutes. If you are unable to attend any of the hearings, written comments for the record may be sent to Albert R. Heidebreck, II, New Jersey Transit Corporation, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, New Jersey 07105-2246 by May 7, 1998. In accordance with above statute, public hearings will be held as follows:

**CENTRAL REGION:**  
**PLACE:** New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Multi-Purpose Meeting Room  
1035 Parkway Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08625

**DATE:** April 28, 1998, Tuesday  
**TIME:** 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

**SOUTHERN REGION:**  
**PLACE:** Bergen County Administration Building  
Board Room - 18th floor  
49 Raritan Road  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

**DATE:** April 30, 1998, Thursday  
**TIME:** 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

**NORTHERN REGION:**  
**PLACE:** NJ Transit Corporation Headquarters  
Board Room - 9th floor  
One Penn Plaza East  
Newark, NJ 07105

**DATE:** May 8, 1998, Wednesday  
**TIME:** 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

Shirley A. DeLorenzo  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Transit Corporation  
\$175.50

**FOR THE MAY 12, 1998 NEWARK MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

**CITIZENS MAY REGISTER TO VOTE**

AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF REGISTRATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF ELECTIONS  
33 WASHINGTON STREET, 1ST FLOOR, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DAILY 8:30 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.  
(MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY)

and  
THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
CITY HALL, 180 BROAD STREET, ROOM B-4,  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DAILY 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.  
(MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 AND THURSDAY, APRIL 9, AND MONDAY  
APRIL 13, 1998

(8:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.)

LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS APRIL 13, 1998 FOR

## HOUSING AUTHORITY

OF THE  
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK  
71 NELSON STREET, NEW BRUNSWICK,  
NEW JERSEY 08903 (732) 745-5141 FAX (732) 214-8905

## Request for Proposal

The New Brunswick Housing Authority seeks written proposals for the procurement of professional appraisal services in connection with an appraisal of a portion of the Authority's Fixed Assets. The Authority owns, operates and maintains over 300 complexes consisting of 503 low-income public housing units. Schwartz Homes 200 family units, Roseau Village 59 family units, Memorial Homes 245 family units, Hudson Pavilion has 59 elderly-assisted units. The Authority's financial statements are now being audited in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) instead of the HUD Accounting Principles, which was the basis of accounting previously used. HUD's Accounting Principles differ from GAAP and therefore a historical cost appraisal is needed so that certain fixed assets on the Authority's books can be adjusted, thus providing an acceptable basis for the Authority, Auditor and GAAP Reporting.

**Services To Be Provided**  
The Appraiser shall determine the historical cost of the Authority's projects so that the cost indicated in the stated (7) categories can be adjusted downward since the cost on the Authority's books of Accounts contain component systems which have been acquired during the Authority's Comprehensive Improvement Program and the costs of the old system had not been removed from the books. The Appraiser will have access to Authority Staff, pertinent Authority books and records. Also, the historical cost for the building shall be broken down into the following major components, by project:

- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Heating Systems
- Roofs
- Elevators if applicable
- Other

The appraiser need not be concerned with any dwelling or non dwelling equipment unless it is considered part of the building structure. Lastly, Contractors, who originally built the projects and who performed work under the Comprehensive Improvement Program, were required to pay Davis Bacon Wages.

This should be considered when determining historical costs.  
The Authority's Fixed Assets on its books at December 31, 1997 were \$3,047,814 broken down as follows:

Acc. No.	Account Name	Amount
1402	Interest Developments Costs	4,948,559
1440	Site Acquisition	635,291
1450	Site Improvement	8,860,760
1480	Dwelling Structure	19,122,508
1488	Dwelling Equipment	216,570
1470	Non Dwelling Structures	245,862
1475	Non Dwelling Equipment	526,254
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,047,814</b>

**Selection Criteria**  
The Appraiser should provide information and data on the Company's qualifications and experience and demonstrate its ability to perform the requested services. A listing of prior relevant experience in performing historical costs appraisals should be submitted. The Appraiser will be selected based upon responses to the above and proposals will be reviewed in accordance with the "Competitive Proposal" process outlined in HUD's Procurement Handbook.

**Proposal Submission**  
Responses to the request are to be submitted by April 16, 1998. It is also understood and agreed that a final appraisal Report will be due at the Authority's office within 45 days of a "Notice to Proceed".

The request for proposal shall be addressed as follows:  
John A. Olshe Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director  
New Brunswick Housing Authority  
175 Memorial Parkway  
P.O. Box 110  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted and to waive any informality in form and to request additional information from all proposals.

New Brunswick Housing Authority  
John A. Olshe  
Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director

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New Brunswick Housing Authority  
John A. Olshe  
Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director

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NEWS BRIEFS

**Suspect in killing of store owner turns himself in by phone**

**PLAINFIELD**—Althea Jasper, a suspect in the murder of the shoe and clothing store owner Nam Hee Lee, turned himself in by phoning from the Valdosta, Ga., Sheriff's Office one week after the crime.

Earlier that same day, Plainfield police announced that Jasper, an unemployed, 15-year-old high school dropout, has been charged in Lee's murder. Clothing and other items found in a search of Jasper's home linked him to the shooting. "We believe this tragic murder was committed in the course of a robbery of a few clothing items," said Union County Prosecutor and Plainfield Police Chief, John Driscoll.

**Paterson teachers go on strike after unsuccessful talks**

**PATERSON**—After 21 hours of unsuccessful talks, Paterson Education Association voted to go on strike, Wednesday, April 8.

Governor Whitman called the job action "clearly illegal," although teachers in this city have been working without a contract for 10 months. Negotiators agreed on several minor concerns, they made no progress on pay raises and a proposal to add 20 minutes to the school day. School officials went to court to force the teachers back to work. Negotiations were still being conducted at press time.

**Black workers file \$100 million suit against Amtrak**

**WASHINGTON**—Stating it maintains a "zero tolerance" policy for any discrimination practices, Amtrak expressed surprise by a \$100 million lawsuit filed by eight black employees charging the corporation with systematic discrimination in hiring, training, promotions and discipline.

The union that represents the eight workers, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees has joined in the suit. "It's the most racial environment in America today," claims Anthony D. Rochon, a regional vice chairman of the union.

**DiVincenzo drops out of county executive race**

**NEWARK**—Five days after Democratic endorsements, including the mayors of Orange and Belleville, endorsed former Newark mayor Kenneth Gibson for the post of County Executive, challenger Joseph DiVincenzo announced that he will drop out of the race.

DiVincenzo, who is currently Essex County Freedom president, made the decision after conferring with his political advisors. Noting that the Essex County democratic party has been since 1986, he said, "I felt that I would be the best candidate to win in November, but... To bring this party together it's up to me to step down."

**Volunteers organize to protest against the federal tax**

**WASHINGTON**—New Jersey had announced a core group of volunteers to gathering petitions signatures for the National Federation of Independent Business campaign to Abolish the IRS Code. A report says that the state is on track to contribute 7,500 signatures towards the national goal of one million.

The drive kicks in today, April 15—the nation's federal tax filing deadline. Volunteer captains will collect petition signatures near many U.S. post offices. "American individuals and businesses spend more than four billion hours each year trying to comply with the tax code," said NFIB President Jack Fox. "We have a special opportunity on tax day to remind the American people that their tax money belongs to them and not to the government."

Paterson videos address youth violence

By Jeffrey Gold  
Associated Press Writer

**PATERSON** (AP)—In a "bitter-sweet coincidence," gun control advocates on recently launched a campaign of television announcements about keeping firearms from children a week after four students and a teacher were shot to death in Arkansas.

Lawnmowers also used in New Jersey to equip a new technology allowing them to be fired only by authorized users.

Adding a pulse to parents was Lyn Hiron of Connecticut, whose 15-year-

old son, Kyle, was killed in 1993 by a friend playing with his father's gun.

"No one ever thinks to ask about guns in the house," said Hiron, suggesting that in addition to checking about alcohol and drugs at homes their children visit, they ask about firearms.

Echoing a theme in the public service announcements, Hiron discouraged parents from keeping a gun in a house with children. "No matter what, they will find it."

The 30-second announcements will begin airing on several cable systems throughout the state this week, said Casefire New Jersey. The four videos, narrated by actor Michael Douglas, were produced by Case Fire Inc. of Washington, D.C.

One of the videos shows two grade-

school boys cracking the combination of a locked gun carrier and removing the weapons. "Think kids aren't smart enough to find your handgun? Think again," Douglas intoned.

Lawmakers and advocates mentioned several fatal shootings by youngsters in addition to Jonesboro, Ark., such as Paducah, Ky., and Pearl, Miss. Monday's news conference had been planned for several months and the timing was only a "bittersweet coincidence," said Sister Jan Frances Brady, president of St. Joseph's.

The advocates and New Jersey State Police did not have figures about how many children in New Jersey injured others with firearms.

However, 56 people 19 and under were killed by firearms in New Jersey in 1995, according to the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence.

If such a law is enacted in New Jersey, Lautenberg said he would introduce it in Washington.

A message left for the National Rifle Association seeking comment was not immediately returned.

Lautenberg pointed to an incident just days ago in Secaucus to illustrate the danger that firearms pose near children.

A 13-year-old boy was recently taken into custody after holding a friend

at gunpoint, calling up a female classmate, and threatening to shoot the friend in an effort to get the girl's attention, Secaucus police said.

The boy was charged with aggravated assault for brandishing the 12-gauge shotgun. It was unloaded, although it was unclear whether the boy knew that, Secaucus police Lt. John Buckley said.

The loots, off from school for a half-day holiday, were at the apartment of Henry Macho, 47, but he was not at home at the time.

Police said the shotgun was not in a locked container or secured by a trigger lock, as required by state law.

Macho was issued a summons for improper storage of a weapon without access of a child.

Donald Payne views Africa with the President

By G. J. Mattox

In 1992, the day after he candidate his first presidential debate with George Bush, candidate Bill Clinton asked a group of people what they would have him do when he became president. While others wanted things done for the economy, jobs and various other domestic issues, Congressman Donald Payne suggested that Clinton go to Africa.

Last week, a capacity crowd filled a meeting room at Essex County College to hear a special report on Payne's "dream come true." President Clinton recent 12-day, six-nation visit to Africa. In his introduction, Essex County College president Dr. Zachary Yamba noted that Congressman Payne's accompanying Clinton to Africa is a continuation of a long standing involvement and commitment to better relations between the U.S. and Africa. "Our congressman has been free for those who are down-trodden and neglected and those whose lives are torn by war, poverty and other strifes," Dr. Yamba said. Of this historic visit to the African continent, said Yamba, "Who would have thought it would take the 20th Century for an American president to officially visit Africa."

Payne's report, which was broadcast this past weekend on local access cable stations, included personal slides taken while he was on the trip along with official White House photos. The slides included scenes from the cell at Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was incarcerated for 27 years; the "door of no return" at Gore Island in Senegal, where free Africans became slaves; elephants in the bush of Botswana and, in one important scene from the trip, a photo of President Clinton in Uganda with president from all countries representing the Great Lakes region of Africa.

Noting slides and photos filled with healthy and smiling school children, Payne said that in each country the group visited several primary schools, and he has high praise for the educational system, especially in Uganda, where education is now stressed for both boys and girls. While in Uganda, it was announced that an additional \$120 million would be allocated for African countries towards the upgrade of elementary school systems and teacher training.

After the slide presentation, Payne



Congressman Payne with Ugandan schoolchildren

used a map to again trace the route the President took through the continent, and gave more highlights of his trip. While describing where they did go, he

also mentioned that the current political situations in the Sudan and Nigeria

continued on page 10

The price of fame for Tiger Woods

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Can Tiger Woods repeat at this year's Augusta National Master's Tournament? Many are hoping he will, but some are hoping that he won't. In April 1997, Woods had barely done the green jacket that symbolizes the Master's crown, when he got a rude jolt: he was not everyone in America's favorite son. When winning golf aceuzzy Zoller, in a TV interview, referred to Woods as a "little boy" and got off a couple of racially-loaded shots. Zoller was criticized by some in the sports world, and promptly came by the company for which he served as a spokesperson. A perceptive Zoller quickly apologized, and Woods, still basking in adulation, shrugged off the incident. Unfortunately, much of the public did not. Sports commentators nationally reported that pro-Zoller sentiment was building fast. Most thought he was persecuted by the media's correct crowd for making a humorous remark that meant no harm, and blamed the media (and by extension Blacks) for making a big deal out

of it. They were outraged not at Zoller, but at how he was treated. But a quick look around the green and the club house at the Augusta National Master's Tournament in Augusta, Ga. told a different number of Blacks. But they were not golfers. They were caddies, waiters, and trash collectors. For years these were the only roles that golf pros like Zoller had been accustomed to seeing Blacks in. A year later not much has changed at Augusta. Golf legend Jack Nicklaus has waved away the avalanche of death threats, hate mail and special security details that Woods has needed after every tournament as the price of success, not racism. When Tiger bombed in several major tournaments following Augusta, some sports-writers, fans, and golf insiders seemed to take special glee in noting that he was in a slump. Few bothered to note that Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Ben Crenshaw and many other legends of golf like stars in any sport, often bomb in their play. Woods was blasted for supporting sweatshop labor for endorsing Nike products, encouraging Americans to get into debt for endorsing

American Express, assailed as arrogant for not always acknowledging fans, accused of having an exaggerated ego for talking about his value to sport and jewelry and for having temper tantrums on the course. While many Whites sincerely cheered Tiger for his slump, many others twisted his success into final proof that America is a color blind society, and discrimination mostly a figment of the warped imaginations of many African Americans. Some publicly, and many more privately, delighted in proclaiming that Tiger was where he got his preference or set aside. Win or lose, at this year's Master's Tournament, the Woods saga still a reminder in relation to race can be as fleeting as a missed putt or two and that Black sports heroes are especially fragile icons. Said Woods "People are taking offense to things I'm trying to do and accomplish in golf." The problem is it's not just in golf. It's in American society too. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of "The Assassination of Black Male Image" and "The Crisis in Black and Black."

Email: thuch31440@aol.com

Can 'One America' truly be a reality?

"President's town meeting on race issues"

**MADISON**—The government wants to talk about race. Increasingly, the public wants to know what will all this "dialogue" do.

As part of President's Clinton's Initiative on Race, Richard W. Riley, U.S. Secretary of Education; Advisory Board members Thomas H. Kean and Angela Oh, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury Theodore N. Carter joined University students for a panel discussion at Drew University last Wednesday.

Designating April as a "Month of Dialogue," community leaders, college faculty members and high school students turned out for the forum.

"It is very difficult to talk about race, without talking about how you feel. These conversations cannot happen in forums like they have to be among individuals. These are white spaces. I don't feel comfortable sitting up here as if I am an authority. We're sitting up here now, because 'we' are concerned about changing demographics, we should've been talking about this a long time ago. If you reflect back 30 years, of separate, but equal, nothing has changed," said Victor Algarin, a Drew University student.

"We still have to be honest when we talk about race," said Congressman Donald Payne, making a connection between race and the staggering concentration of poverty in the black community. "Until we really deal with the poverty, we will continue to see the problem of race."

For the first quarter of the forum, the President's advisory board members, which consisted of Angela Oh, an Asian attorney from Los Angeles and Richard Riley, asked college students to detail their own encounters with race.

"I don't think 'you' want a multi-cultural America. If you want me to forget who I am and the past I had to deal with then once we talk about the past and address the history then we can look at reconciliation," said one African American Drew University student.

One person recommended to advisory board members that the President include Corporate America in the dialogue and solution to race.

"We are looking to Corporate community for a wide range of activities, one of them being access to capital for economic development in com-

munities across the country...with a particular look at building wealth in traditional under-served population, usually do to red-line," said Oh.

"My office is charged with aggressively bringing in small business to see how we can empower through the federal level, but to the access to capital... Also, what can we do at a policy level to connect small businesses with the resources that we have. People have to get away from the companies. Small business is where it's at. A lot of minorities make their livelihood in small business," said Carter.

The forum contributor recommended that school districts be restructured, owing to the fact that racial segregation from racially divided housing patterns.

"We should look at people who deserve Affirmative Action because they're a victim," said one Drew University honor student, who wrote his thesis on Affirmative Action. "A victim of racism and of socio-economic competitiveness, school systems that are in adequate, not based on color. We need to level the economic playing field."

Several students complained about Drew Universities lack of openness in dealing with issues that effect minority students on campus. Others also said that the students who were supposed to represent them on the panel, did not represent them at all. "I'm really upset...because the fact that they picked someone who was supposed to represent us [minority students], we were associated with or involved in any multi-cultural events."

Tricia Ramperud, multi-cultural senator for student government association for Fairleigh Dickinson University.

This forum was part of more than 400 planned town meetings scheduled across the nation during April.

**To share your thoughts about race, write:**  
**President's Initiative on Race**  
ATTN: PIRI  
New Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Or you may send an e-mail to: [OneAmerica@whitehouse.gov](mailto:OneAmerica@whitehouse.gov)

Or visit there web site at: [www.whitehouse.gov/initiatives/OneAmerica](http://www.whitehouse.gov/initiatives/OneAmerica)



This group of University students did not feel panelists represented them.